

HP 10990600-1

PATENT
Atty. Ref. No. HP 10990600-1

generating copy pigment data for a print engine from the determined receiver and document pigments, the print engine employing the copy pigment data to copy the document onto the receiver. (Emphasis added.)

Claim 1's method includes the element, "determining pigments required to render the receiver to a given standard." For example in one described embodiment in the specification, a software routine determines pigments to apply to a receiver to render the receiver to a standard, such as an amount of cyan pigment to apply to a red-tinted receiver to render the receiver as a white standard.

Shin fails to teach or suggest all limitations of claim 1. Specifically, Shin fails to teach or suggest the limitation "from the characteristics, determining which pigments are required to render the receiver to a given standard." In the action, the office asserts that Shin teaches, "from the characteristics, determining which pigments are required to render the receiver to a given standard" and directs the applicants to the following passage:

If a media type is selected from the group of media group one, then a lookup table one for media group one 86 is accessed by the printer controller..." (col. 8, lines 55-57).

This passage does not teach "from the characteristics, determining which pigments are required to render the receiver to a given standard." In general, Shin is directed to methods for faithfully converting pigment representations of a document in one color format (e.g. RGB) to another color format (e.g. CMY). Specifically, the lookup table, referred to in the passage cited above, is used to make the adjustments necessary to convert between such color formats. However, Shin fails to teach a method for making the adjustments in pigments necessary to bring a given receiver up to meet characteristics of a selected standard receiver. For example, Shin does not teach a method for the adjustments in pigments necessary to render a receiver with a pink color to a standard receiver such as a receiver with a white color. Instead, Shin is directed to a method for faithfully translating a predetermined pigment representation of a document from one color format to another.

In fact, the methods of faithfully converting pigment representation in one color format to another, as taught by Shin, can be used along with the methods claimed by the applicants to improve the process of generating highly accurate copies of original documents. The methods of Shin can be used to ensure that the accuracy of such copies is minimally affected due to any color format changes during the copying process. Whereas, the methods

HP 10990600-1

PATENT
Atty. Ref. No. HP 10990600-1

claimed by the applicants can ensure that the accuracy of the copies is minimally affected due to differences in the characteristics of the receivers on which they will be printed.

Further, the Kondo reference cited in the action against claim 2 also fails to teach or suggest any determination of pigments to render a receiver to a standard. The Action states, "Kondo, in the same field of endeavor, teaches a characteristic of the receiver is its color." However, Kondo contains no suggestion to determine pigments to render a receiver to a standard.

Because the cited references lack any teaching or suggest to determine pigments to render a receiver to a standard, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-11 which incorporate this element clearly should be allowable over this art.

Patentability over Shin in view of Kobayashi et al.

Claims 12-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Shin and Kobayashi et. al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,434,343 B1. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 12-13

Claim 12 is directed to a system for copying. Specifically, claim 12 recites:

- a buffer storing data describing a document to be copied;
- a receiver scanner scanning receivers on which a document image is to be copied and producing therefrom characteristic receiver data;
- an image processor receiving the document data and receiver data, the image processor generating copy pigment data therefrom; and
- a print engine receiving the generated copy pigment data and employing the data to copy the document onto the receiver.

The action alleges that Shin teaches all limitations of claim 12 except for "a buffer storing data describing a document to be copied." However, Shin does not teach or suggest "a receiver scanner scanning receivers on which a document image is to be copied and producing therefrom characteristic receiver data."

In support of its allegation that Shin teaches the recited receiver scanner, the action directs the applicant to Figure 6, element 81 and the following passage at column 8, lines 38-40 in Shin:

HP 10990600-1

PATENT
Atty. Ref. No. HP 10990600-1

a user typically selects from a user interface 80 (see also FIG. 6), also included in the printer driver, a media type, for instance, including the six previously mentioned media types...

However, Shin's user interface merely prompts a user to provide a selection via a keyboard or pointer device input. There is no teaching or suggestion to scan a receiver, as recited in claim 12.

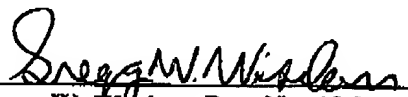
Thus, Shin combined with Kobayashi et al. does not teach or suggest all limitations of claim 12. Claim 12 and its dependent claim 13 therefore should be allowed. Such action is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the remarks presented above, the claims in their present form should be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas R. Knapp


Gregg W. Wisdom, Reg. No. 40,231
Telephone No. (360) 212-8052
Facsimile No. (360) 212-3060

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Records Manager
Legal Department, M/S 20BN
Hewlett-Packard Company
PO Box 10301
Palo Alto, CA 94303-0890

HP 10990600-1

PATENT
Atty. Ref. No. HP 10990600-1

**Marked-up Version of Amended Claims and Specification
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)-(c)**

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, line 29 through page 4, line 14 with the following paragraph in mark-up form:

In the illustrative embodiment, a method for considering a receiver's characteristics in producing a copy of a document is embodied in a software routine stored in the memory 24 and executed by processor 22. Prior to execution of the software routine, a document to be copied is placed in the scanner 12 and scanned, producing the document data described above. Upon activation of the scanner 12 by a user, the system 10 responds by also scanning the next sheet of receiver feeder with the scanner 18, thereby producing the receiver data also described above. These data are now in their respective buffers 14 and 20. The spatial and color resolution of these scans can vary as desired. For the document, higher resolutions (i.e., 1600 by 1200 pixels, 24 bits per pixel) provide sharper images with more color depth. For the receiver, on the other hand, average characteristics such as overall color may be acceptable, requiring lower spatial and color resolutions. The buffers must therefore [by] be large enough to store the highest resolution data desired.

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 15-28 with the following paragraph in mark-up form:

-- Although illustrated in a copying system, the invention can be practiced in other types of systems such as printers, fax machines, combined purpose machines, etc., and the term should be interpreted broadly enough to cover all such systems. In a printer, the document scanner 12 may not be used, the document data instead coming from an input device such as a computer or digital camera. Sensors other than scanner 18 may be used to collect information about the receiver's characteristics. It should also be recognized that a user may enter the characteristics of the receiver into the copying system such as through a menu, thus avoiding the need for scanning the receiver to obtain the characteristics. And while the method in the illustrative embodiment employs toners as the pigment carriers, inks and other pigment carriers may also be used in other systems such as inkjet printers where appropriate.

--